

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00  
INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 ACDA-07 L-03 H-01 OMB-01  
TRSE-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 /058 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SE: RRDELABARRE:RAH  
APPROVED BY E:MNIMETZ  
EUR/SE:NCLEDSKY  
EUR:REBARBOUR  
S/S - PSEBASTIAN

-----290317Z 017423 /63

O R 290152Z MAR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USMISSION NATO  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 069126

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, TU

SUBJECT: TURKISH F-4S

REF: STATE 066879

1. COUNSELOR-DESIGNATE NIMETZ MET WITH TURKISH AMBASSADOR

ESENBEL MARCH 28 TO DISCUSS RESULTS OF CONGRESSIONAL CON-  
SULTATION ON F-4 PROBLEM AND TO PRESENT FOR TURKISH GOVERN-  
MENT CONSIDERATION INTERIM OPTIONS INVOLVING USE OF DOLS  
32.9 MILLION FROM UNCOMMITTED F-4 LOGISTICAL SUPPORT OR  
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SAME AMOUNT FROM UNCOMMITTED FY 77 FMS AUTHORITY (ALONG  
LINES PARA 3 A AND B REFTTEL) WHICH WOULD CARRY PROGRAM  
BEYOND APRIL 30 THROUGH END OF JUNE. COMMERCIAL CONTRACT  
OPTION (PARA 3C) WAS NOT MENTIONED. NIMETZ URGED THAT GOT  
CONSIDER THESE POSITIONS AND RESPOND AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO  
THAT DECISION CAN BE TAKEN WELL BEFORE APRIL 30 CRITICAL  
DATE IN CURRENT CONTRACT.

2. ESENBEL INDICATED HE WOULD CONVEY OPTIONS TO ANKARA FOR PROMPT DECISION.

3. NIMETZ ALSO TOLD ESENBEL THAT DECISIONS RE FUTURE TURKISH MILITARY ASSISTANCE WOULD BE MADE PROMPTLY AFTER SECRETARY'S RETURN FROM MOSCOW AND THAT CLIFFORD

RECOMMENDATIONS ARE RECEIVING "SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION." ESENBEL EXPRESSED HOPE THAT ADMINISTRATION'S INTENTION TO CONSULT WITH GREEK INTEREST GROUP IN CONGRESS DID NOT MEAN THAT GROUP WOULD HAVE VETO OVER ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY. NIMETZ ASSURED HIM THAT ADMINISTRATION WOULD COME TO ITS OWN POLICY DECISIONS; IT HOWEVER WANTED TO CONSULT AS WIDELY AS POSSIBLE SO THAT SUCCESS COULD BE ACHIEVED.

4. ESENBEL EXPRESSED CONCERN RE THE LANGUAGE REGARDING GREEK-TURKISH TENSIONS APPEARING IN THE FY 78 CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATION DOCUMENT. HE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD SIMILAR LANGUAGE WAS INCLUDED FOR GREECE BUT HE THOUGHT THE LANGUAGE WOULD POSE YET ANOTHER DIFFICULTY FOR CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF ONGOING SECURITY ASSISTANCE FOR TURKEY. NIMETZ NOTED THAT THE LANGUAGE HAD BEEN PREPARED IN RESPONSE TO A REPORTING REQUIREMENT ON IMPACT OF ARMS TRANSFERS AND SHOULD NOT BE REGARDED AS AN ISSUE.

5. LANGUAGE OF PERTINENT PARAGRAPHS FROM CPD JUSTIFICATION FOR GREECE AND TURKEY FOLLOWS:

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A. GREECE. QTE GREEK ARMS PROCUREMENT IS A PRODUCT NOT ONLY OF ITS CONCERN FOR THE WARSAW PACT THREAT, BUT ALSO OF ITS CONTINUING TENSIONS WITH TURKEY OVER THE CYPRUS ISSUE AND OVER RESOURCES ACQUISITION RIGHTS IN THE AEGEAN SEA. THE TYPES OF WEAPONS UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR TRANSFER TO GREECE, PARTICULARLY HELICOPTERS, AIR-TO-AIR MISSILES AND THE GUNBOAT, COULD RAISE QUESTIONS REGARDING THE PROSPECTS FOR HOSTILITIES WITH TURKEY. UNQTE

B. TURKEY. QTE. WHILE TURKEY IS CONCERNED THAT IT BE PREPARED TO MEET THE WARSAW PACT THREAT, CONTINUING TENSIONS WITH GREECE OVER THE CYPRUS ISSUE AND DISAGREEMENT OVER RIGHTS IN THE AEGEAN SEA ARE ALSO FACTORS IN TURKISH ARMS PROCUREMENT PLANS. BOTH THE QUANTITIES AND TYPES OF MAJOR WEAPONS ENVISAGED FOR TRANSFER TO TURKEY, PARTICULARLY F-4 AIRCRAFT, HELICOPTERS, MISSILES, NAVAL ESCORT CRAFT AND ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS, COULD RAISE QUESTIONS REGARDING PROSPECTS FOR HOSTILITIES WITH GREECE. UNQTE.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**TAGS:** MASS, TU, US  
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